AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Status of Claims:

Claims _____ 15 - 31 _____ are pending for examination.

Claims _____ 15 - 31 _____ are added by the present amendment.

Claims _____ 1 - 14 _____ are canceled by the present amendment.

Claims _____ 15, 22, and 26 ___ are in independent form.

1 - 14. (Canceled)

15.   (New) A method comprising:

receiving a telephone number portion identifying a device assigned a static Internet Protocol (IP) address in a network;

generating a multiple level domain name comprising one or more domains corresponding to the telephone number portion;

matching the multiple level domain name to the static Internet Protocol (IP) address; and

establishing communication with the device over the network via the static Internet Protocol (IP) address.

16.   (New) The method of claim 15, the generating comprising:

inserting domain separators in the multiple level domain name at determinable locations between the one or more domains corresponding to the telephone number portion.

17. (New) The method of claim 15, the generating comprising:

parsing the telephone number portion for a separator; and

replacing the separator with a domain separator.

18. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

appending additional domain levels to the multiple level domain name.

19. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

recognizing in the multiple level domain name insufficiency in a number of domain levels necessary to identify the device in the network; and

appending additional domain levels to the multiple level domain name to correct the insufficiency in the total number of domain levels.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, where the appended additional domain levels correspond to one or more of a country code, an area code, and an exchange.

21. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

querying the device over the network; and

receiving a response from the device indicative of device availability.

22. (New) A method comprising:

detecting ambiguity in whether a multilevel domain name comprising one or more domains corresponding to a telephone number identifies a first device or a second device in a

network;

adding additional domains corresponding to one or more of a country code, an area code, and an exchange to the multilevel domain name to solve the ambiguity.

23.   (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

receiving data representing the telephone number;

transforming the data representing the telephone number into the multilevel domain name;

looking-up a static Internet Protocol (IP) address matching the multilevel domain name; and

establishing a connection to the first device over the network via the static Internet Protocol (IP) address;

24.   (New) The method of claim 23, the transforming comprising:

parsing the received data representing the telephone number for one or more telephone number separators; and

substituting the telephone number separators with domain separators in the multilevel domain name.

25.   (New) The method of claim 23, the transforming comprising:

inserting domain separators in the multilevel domain name at locations separating domains corresponding to the country code, the area code, and the exchange.

26.   (New) A system comprising:

receiving logic configured to receive data representing a telephone number corresponding to a device in a network;

conversion logic configured to convert the data representing the telephone number into a domain name comprising one or more domains corresponding to the telephone number;

look-up logic configured to look-up a static Internet Protocol (IP) address corresponding to the domain name; and

a processor configured to communicate with the look-up logic, obtain the static Internet Protocol (IP) address, and establish a connection to the device via the static Internet Protocol (IP) address.

27.   (New) The system of claim 26 comprising a look-up table which matches the domain name to the static Internet Protocol (IP) address.

28.   (New) The system of claim 26, where the conversion logic inserts domain separators in the domain name at locations separating a country code, an area code, and an exchange.

29.   (New) The system of claim 26, where the data representing the telephone number comprises a separator, and where the conversion logic parses the data representing the telephone number for the separator and inserts a domain separator for selected instances of the parsed separator.

30.   (New) The system of claim 26, comprising:

ambiguity detection logic configured to detect whether the domain name is ambiguous as to which device in the network the domain name represents; and

disambiguity logic configured to add one or more additional domains to the domain name to solve the ambiguity.

31.   (New) The system of claim 30, where the additional domains correspond to a country code, an area code, and an exchange.